Old age homes in Madhya Pradesh

†2231. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the year 2004-05,19 proposals for sanction for running old age homes were sent to Central Government by Madhya Pradesh Government, which included 14 for day care centres, 2 for construction of old-age home building and 2 for setting up mobile units;

(b) what is the number of proposals approved to and the status of the remaining out of these; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) to (c) All the proposals received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh were examined but could not be sanctioned.

Welfare of senior citizens

2232. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that according to the 2001 census there were 7,66,22,321 senior citizens above the age of 60 years and by 2016 their population would cross 10 per cent of the total population of the country;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken, so far, in respect of senior citizens, encompassing legal, social, health and security besides strengthening the bonds between the young and old to enable the youth to benefit from the wisdom of senior veteran elders; and

(c) by when Government propose to bring forward suitable legislation before Parliament in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) The population of senior citizens is not likely to cross 10 percent of the total population by 2016.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.